



Janet Finch-Saunders MS|AS

Aelod Senedd Cymru dros Aberconwy
Member of the Welsh Parliament for Aberconwy



HRH The Prince of Wales,
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Welsh Parliament,
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Dear HRH The Prince of Wales,

Janet.Finch-Saunders@Senedd.Cymru

It is my pleasure to writing to you in your capacity as patron of the Campaign for Wool.

Since being appointed Shadow Minister for Climate Change, Energy, and Rural Affairs, in the Welsh Parliament, I have been co-operating with the agricultural sector in an effort to help champion Welsh produce and products. Central to this is lamb and wool.

Sheep are vitally important to the Welsh agricultural sector. In fact, there are almost 7,700 holdings in Wales with cattle and sheep, we have around 4,400 breeding ewes, and 3,246 tonnes of lamb was purchased in Wales in 2018/19. There is excellent potential to improve support for sheep farmers, such as through my recent proposals for a review into public sector procurement practices so to try and maximise the level of Welsh produce being used in our hospitals, schools and government offices; calls for the extending of Welsh lamb's shelf-life so to make it even more internationally competitive; and campaign to see the use of Welsh wool in public buildings. I believe that the latter may be of considerable interest to you given the work the Campaign for Wool has undertaken to educate consumers about the versatility of wool, and reconnect them with its myriad uses.

To my delight, the Welsh Government have responded positively to my correspondence in relation to wool, and their facilities management team has committed to consider the more widespread use of the product at the estate in future, subject to the required compliance testing and certification. When considering that wool is sustainable, fire-retardant, bio-degradable, and the most efficient form of insulation, I would be delighted if you could support my campaign to increase the use of Welsh wool in public buildings, and advise whether we could co-operate with the Campaign for Wool so to ensure that Welsh wool can play an instrumental role in the growing sustainable fashion industry.

Kind regards,

Janet Finch-Saunders MS/AS

